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HEADQUARTERS
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Chief Surgeon
APO 887

Ch Surg 353

20 March 1945

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 25

Training of Medical Department in Chemical Warfare

Medicine - - - - - Section I
Rescission of Current Directives - - - - - Section II

SECTION I. TRAINING OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT IN CHEMICAL WARFARE
MEDICINE

1. General. The constant threat of the use of Chemical Warfare by the enemy requires continued training in Chemical Warfare Medicine. Special emphasis should be placed on first aid against chemical agents. The complete understanding of first aid against chemical agents is a military necessity and must not be minimized because the enemy has not as yet used gas. It must be stressed that each individual in the army is responsible for his or her own first aid against chemical agents. It is too late to teach first aid after gas has been used.

2. References. Principles of Chemical Warfare Medicine and first aid against chemical agents are covered in:

a. Section IX, Training Memorandum No. 42, Hq LTOUSA, 23 December 1943, and Training Memorandum No. 29, Hq EPOUSA, 10 November 1944.

b. Medical Bulletin No. 17, Office of the Chief Surgeon, 15 March 1944.

c. Circular Letters, Office of the Chief Surgeon, No. 56, 13 April 1943; No. 68, 9 May 1944 and No. 105, 16 August 1944.

d. Administrative Memoranda, Office of the Chief Surgeon, No. 24, 23 February 1944 and No. 39, 8 April 1944.

3. Objectives.

a. Proficiency of every individual in first aid against chemical agents.

b. Proficiency of every medical officer in all phases of Chemical Warfare Medicine.

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4. Responsibility.

a. Individual:.

- (1) Complete understanding of first aid against chemical agents.

b. Medical Officers:

- (1) Complete understanding of Chemical Warfare Medicine including first aid.

- (2) Knowledge of standing operating procedure for care and handling of gas casualties.

c. Unit Commander:

- (1) That each individual is properly trained as indicated in "a" and "b" above.

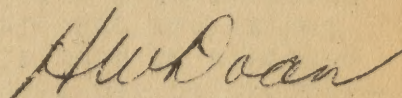
SECTION II. RESCISSION OF CURRENT DIRECTIVES

1. The following directives, Office of the Chief Surgeon, are rescinded:

a. Circular Letter No. 102, "Evacuation of Patients to Zone of the Interior", 4 August 1944.

b. Circular Letter No. 124, "Evacuation of Patients to the Zone of Interior", 17 October 1944.

By order of the Chief Surgeon:



H. W. DOAN,
Colonel, Medical Corps,
Executive Officer.